Application No.: 10/808,149
Amendment dated: October 17, 2006
Reply to Restriction Requirement dated: September 28, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A suspension assembly, comprising:

a suspension to hold a slider above a data storage medium; and

a slider fixture formed on the suspension to couple with portions of at least two surfaces of the slider other than a surface facing the data storage medium having a set of connecting pads; and

an adhesive substance is applied to the portions between the slider and the slider fixture to couple the slider to the slider fixture.

2. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1, wherein the adhesive substance is applied as a partial dot on the portion between the slider and the slider fixture.

3. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1, wherein the slider fixture has a first side forming plate formed to cover a first side surface of the slider and a second side forming plate formed to cover a second side surface of the slider.

4. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1, wherein the slider fixture has a first side forming plate formed to partially cover a first side surface of the slider and a second side forming plate formed to partially cover a second side surface of the slider.

5. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1, wherein the slider fixture has a third forming plate formed to cover a side surface opposite the surface having connecting pads.

6. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1, wherein the slider fixture has a U-shaped forming plate formed to cover a third side surface of the slider and to partially cover a first side surface and a second side surface of the slider.

7. (Original) The suspension assembly of claim 1, wherein the slider fixture has a first L-shaped forming plate formed to partially cover both a first side surface and a third side surface of the slider and a second L-shaped forming plate formed to partially cover both a second side surface and a third side surface of the slider.

8. (Original) A magnetic disk drive, comprising:

a data storage medium to store data;

a slider which has a read/write head;

a suspension to hold a slider above a data storage medium;

a slider fixture formed on suspension to couple with portions of at least two surfaces of the slider other than a surface facing the data storage medium or having a set of connecting pads;

an adhesive substance is applied to the portions between the slider and the slider fixture to couple the slider to the slider fixture; and

a controller to control movement of the suspension and operation of the read/write head.

9. (Original) The magnetic disk drive of claim 8, wherein the adhesive substance is applied as a partial dot on the portion between the slider and the slider fixture.

10. (Original) The magnetic disk drive of claim 8, wherein the slider fixture has a first side forming plate formed to cover a first side surface of the slider and a second side forming plate formed to cover a second side surface of the slider.

11. (Original) The magnetic disk drive of claim 8, wherein the slider fixture has a first side forming plate formed to partially cover a first side surface of the slider and a second side forming plate formed to partially cover a second side surface of the slider.

12. (Original) The magnetic disk drive of claim 8, wherein the slider fixture has a third forming plate formed to cover a third side surface opposite the surface having connecting pads.

13. (Original) The magnetic disk drive of claim 8, wherein the slider fixture has a U-shaped forming plate formed to cover a third side surface of the slider and to partially cover a first side surface and a second side surface of the slider.

14. (Original) The magnetic disk drive of claim 8, wherein the slider fixture has a first L-shaped forming plate formed to partially cover both a first and a third side surface of the slider and a second L-shaped forming plate formed to partially cover both a second and a third side surface of the slider.

15. (Original) A method, comprising:

forming a slider which has a read/write head;

forming a suspension to hold a slider;

forming a circuit on the suspension to connect electrically with the slider;

forming a slider fixture on the suspension to couple with portions of at least two surfaces of the slider other than a surface facing the data storage medium or having a set of connecting pads;

coupling the slider with the slider fixture by applying an adhesive substance to the slider or the suspension; and

electrically connecting the circuit with the slider.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising applying the adhesive substance as a partial dot on at least one side surface of the slider or on suspension.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

forming a first side forming plate of the slider fixture to partially cover a first side surface of the slider; and

forming a second side forming plate of the slider fixture to partially cover a second side surface of the slider.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising forming a third side forming plate formed to cover a side surface opposite a surface having connecting pads.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising forming a U-shaped forming plate to surround a third side surface of the slider and to partially cover a first side surface and a second side surface of the slider.

20. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

forming a first L-shaped forming plate to partially cover both a first and a third side surface of the slider; and

forming a second L-shaped forming plate to partially cover both a second and a third side surface of the slider.